THE HVMBLE

Desires and Propositions

OF

The LORDS and COMMONS in PARLIAMENT, tendred to His MAIESTIE, *Febr.* 1.

Presented to the Kings most excellent Majesty at Oxford, by foure Lords, and eight Members of the House of Commons.

AND

His MAIESTIES Gracious *Answer and Propositions*

The third of *February*, 1642.

Die Martis 8 Feb. 1642.

Ordered by the Lords and Commons Assembled in Parliament, that these Desires with his Majesties Answer, be forthwith printed and published.

Io. Brown, Cler. Parliament.

C R.

LONDON,

Printed for *Thomas Bancks*.

1642.

The humble Desires and Propositions of the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled tendred to his Majestie, February 1. 1642.

WE your Majesties most humble and faithfull Subjects, the Lords and Commons in Parliament assembled, having in our thoughts the glory of God, your Maiesties Honour, and the prosperity of your people, and being most grievously afflicted with the pressing miseries and calamities which have overwhelmed your two Kingdoms of England and Ireland, since your Maiestie hath, by the perswasion of evill Counsellors, withdrawne your selfe from the Parliament, raised an army against it, and by force thereof protected Delinquents from the justice of it; constraining us to take armes for The defence of our Religion, laws liberties, priviledges of Parliament, and for the sitting of the Parliament in safety, which feares and dangers are continued and increased by the raising, drawing together, and arming of great numbers of Papists under the Earle of Newcastle, likewise by making the Lord Herbert of Ragland, and other known papists, commanders of great forces, wherby many grievous oppressions, Rapines, and cruelties have beene, and are daily exercised upon the persons and estates of your people, much innocent blood hath beene spilt, and the Papists have attained meanes of attempting, with hopes of effecting their mischievous designe of rooting out the reformed Religion, and destroying the professors thereof. In the tender sense and compassion of these evils, under which your people and kingdome lie (according to the dutie which we owe to God, your Maiestie, and the Kingdome for which we are trusted) do most earnestly desire, that an end may be put to these great distempers and distractions, for the preventing of that desolation which doth threaten all your Maiesties Dominions; and

as

as we have rendred, and still are ready to render to your Majestie that subjection obedience, and service which we owe unto you, so we most humbly beseech your Majestie to remove the causes of this war and to vouchsafe us that peace and protection which we and our Ancestors have formerly enjoyed under your Majestie and your Royall Predecessors, and graciously to accept and grant these our most humble desires & propositions.

THat your Majesty will be pleased to disband your armies, as we likewise shall be ready to disband all those forces which we have raised, and that you will be pleased to returne to your Parliament.

2. That you will leave Delinquents to a legall triall, and judgement of Parliament.

3. That the Papists may not onely be disbanded, but disarmed according to Law.

4. That your Majesty will be pleased to give your Royall assent unto the Bill for taking away superstitious innovations: To the Bill for the utter abolishing and taking away of all Archbishops, Bishops, their Chancellors and Commissaries, Deans, Subdeans, Deans and Chapters, Archdeacons, Canons, and Prebendaries, and all Chaunters, Chancellours, Treasurers, Subtreasurers, Succentors, and Sacrists, and all Vicars Chorall, and Choristers, old Vicars and new Vicars of any Cathedrall or Collegiate Church and all other their under officers out of the Church of England: to the Bill against scandalous Ministers: to the Bill against Pluralities: and to the Bill for consultation to be had with Godly, Religious and learned Divines: that your Majesty will be pleased to promise to passe such other good bills for setling of Church Government, as upon consultation with the assembly of the said Divines shall be resolved on by both Houses of Parliament, and by them be presented to Your Majesty.

5. That Your Majesty having expresst in your Answere to the nineteene Propositions of both Houses of Parliament, an hearty Affection and intention for the rooting out of Popery out of this Kingdome, and that if both the Houses of Parliament can yet finde a more effectuall course to disable Iesuites, Priests and Popish recusants, from disturbing the State, or deluding the Laws, that you would willingly give your consent unto it. That you would be graciously pleased for the better discovery and speedier conviction of recusants, that an oath may be established by Act of Parliament, to be administred in such manner as by both Houses shall be agreed on, wherein they shall abiure and renounce the Popes Supremacy, the doctrine of transubstantiation, Purgatory, worshiping of the consecrated Hoast, Crucifixes, and Images; and the refusing the said Oath, being tendred in such manner as shall be appointed by act of Parliament, shall be a sufficient conviction in Law of recusancy. And that Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to

give

give your Royall assent unto a Bill for the education of the children of Papists by Protestants in the Protestant Religion. That for the more effectuall execution of the Laws against Popish Recusants, your Maiesty would be pleased to consent to a Bill for the true levying of the penalties against them, and that the same Penalties may be leavied and disposed of in such manner as both Houses of Parliament shall agree on, so as your Maiesty be at no losse: and likewise to a bill, whereby the practice of Papists against the state may be prevented, and the Law against them duely executed.

6. That the Earle of Bristol may be removed from your Maiesties councels; and that both he and the Lord Herbert, eldest son to the Earle of Worcester, may likewise be restrained from coming within the Verge of the court and that they may not beare any office, or have any imployments concerning state or Common-wealth.

7. That your Maiesty will be graciously pleased by act of Parliament to settle the Militia both by Sea and Land, and for the Forts of the Kingdome in such a manner as shall be agreed on by both Houses.

8. That your Majesty will be pleased by your Letters Patents, to make Sir Iohn Brampston cheife justice of your Court of Kings Bench; William Lenthall Esquire, the now Speeker of the Commons House, Master of the Rolls, and to continue the Lord cheife Iustice Bankes cheife Iustice of the court of Common-Pleas, and likewise to make Master Serjeant Wild chiefe Baron of your court of Exchequer and that Master justice Bacon may be continued, and Master Serieant Rolls and Master Serieant Atkins made Iustices of the Kings Bench: That Master Iustice Reeves, and Master Iustice Foster may be continued, and Master Serieant Pheasant made one of the Iustices of your Court of Common-pleas; that Master Serieant Creswell, Master Samuel Browne, and Master Iohn Pulestone may be Barons of the Exchequer; and that all these, and all the Iudges of the same courts for the time to come, may hold their places by Letters Patents under the Great Seale *Quamdiu se benè gesserint*; And that the severall persons not before named, that do hold any of these places before mentioned, may be removed.

9. That all such persons as have beene put out of the Commissions of peace or Oyer Terminer, or from being *Custodes Rotulorum*, since the first day of April 1642. (other then such as were put out by desire of both, or either of the Houses of Parliament) may againe be put into those Commissions and Officers, and that such persons may be put out of those Commissions and offices as shall be excepted against by both Houses of Parliament.

10. That Your Majesty will be pleased to passe the Bill now presented to Your Maiesty, to vindicate and secure the Priviledges of Parliament from the ill consequence of the late President, in the charge and proceeding against the Lord Kimbolten, now Earle of Manchester, and the five Members of the House of Commons.

11. That your Maiesties Royall assent may be given unto such acts as shall be advised by both Houses of Parliament for the satisfying and paying

the

the Debts and Damnages, wherein the two Houses of Parliament have engaged the Publique faith of the King some.

XII. That Your Majestie will be pleased, according to a gracious Answer heretofore received from You, to enter into a more strict Alliance with the States of the United Provinces, and other Neighbour Princes and States of th Protestant Religion, for the defence and maintenance thereof against all Designes and Attempts of the Popish and Jesuiticall Faction to subvert and suppresse it, whereby Your Subjects may hope to be free from the mischiefes which this Kingdome hath indured thorough the power which some of that party have had in your Councells, and will bee much Encouraged in a Parliamentory way for your aide and assistance, in restoring Your Royall Sister, and the Prince Elector to those Dignities and Dominions which belong unto them, and the relieving the other Protestant Princes who have suffered in the same cause.

XIII. That in the generall Pardon which Your Majestie hath beene pleased to offer to your Subiects, all offences and misdemeanours committed before the tenth of *Ianuary* 1641. which have beene or shall be questioned orproceeded against in Parliament upon complaint in the House of Commons before the tenth of *Ianuary* 1643. shall be excepted (which offences and misdemeanours shall nevertheless bee taken and adjudged to bee fully discharged against all other inferiour Courts; That likewise there shall bee an exception of all offences committed by any person or persons which hath or have had any hand or practice in the Rebellion of *Ireland*, which had or have given any counsell, assistance or encouragement to the Rebells there, for the maintenance of that Rebellion as likewise an Exception of *William* Earle of *Newcastle*, and *George* Lord *Digby*.

XIIII. That your Majesty will be pleased to restore such Members of either House of Parliament to their severall places of services and employment out of which they have beene put since the beginning of this Parliament; That they may receive satisfaction and reparation for those places, and for profits which they have lost by such removalls, upon the Petitions of both Houses of Parliament; and that all other may be restored to their Offices and employments who have bin put out of the same upon any displeasure conceived againg them for any assistance given to both Houses of Parliament, or obeying their Commands, or forbearing to leave their attendance upon the Parliament without licence, or for any other occasion arising from these unhappy differences betwixt Your Majesty and both Houses of Parliament upon the like Petition of both Houses.

THese things being granted and performed, as it hath alwayes beene our heartie prayer, so shall we be enabled to make it our hopefull endeavour, that your Majestie and your people may enjoy the blessings of peace truth and iustice; The Royaltie and greatnesse of your Throne may be supported by the loyall and bountifull affections of your people: their

liberties and priviledges maintained by your Maiesties protection and iustice, and this publike honour and happinesse of your Maiestie and all your Dominions communicated to other Churches and States of your alliance, and derived to your Royall Posterity, and the future generations in this Kingdome for ever.

His MAIESTIES Answer

To the Desires and Propositions of both Houses, *February* 3. 1642

IF his Majesty had not given up all the faculties of his soul to an earnest endeavour of a Peace and reconciliation with his People, or if he would suffer himself by any provocation to be drawn to a sharpnesse of Language, at a time when there seeme somewhat like an overture of Accomodation, he could not but resent the heavie Charges upon him in the Preamble of these Propositions, and would not suffer himself to be reproached with protecting of Delinquents by force from Iustice, (his Majesties desire having alwayes been, that all men should be tried by the known Law, refused it) with raising an Armie against his Parliament; And to be tould that Arms have been taken up against him, for the defence of Religion, Laws, Liberties, Privileges of Parliament, and for the sitting of the Parliament in safetie; with many other particulars in that Preamble, so often, and so fully Answered by his Majesty, with out remembring the world of the time and circumstances of raising those Armes against him: when his Maiesty was so far from being in a condition to invade other mens rights, that he was not able to maintaine and defend his owne from violence; and without telling his good Subjects that their Religion (the true Protestant Religion, in which his Maiesty was born, hath faithfully lived, and to which he will die a willing sacrifice) their Lawes, Liberties, Priviledges and safety of Parliament were so amply setled and established, or offered to be so by his Majesty before any Army was raised against him, and long before any raised by him for his defence, that if nothing had been desired but that Peace and Protection which his Subjects and their Ancestors had in the best times enjoyed under his Majesty, or his Royall Predecessors, this misunderstanding and distance between his Majesty and his People, and this generall misery and distraction upon the face of the whole Kingdom, had not been now the discourse of Christendom: But his Majesty will forbear any expressions of bitternesse, or of a sense of his own sufferings, that if it be possible the memory thereof may be lost to the World; and therfore though

many

many of the Propoſitions, preſented to his Majeſty by both houſes appeare to him derogatory from, and deſtructive to, his juſt powe and Prerogative, and no way beneficiall to his Subjects, few of them being already due to them by the Laws eſtabliſhed; (and how unparliamentary it is by Arms to require new Laws, all the World may judge) yet (becauſe theſe may be waved or mollified, and many things that are now dark and doutfull in them clee ed and explained upon debate) his Ma eſty is pleaſed (ſuch is his ſenſe of the miſeries this Kingdom ſuffers by this unnatrall Warre, and his earneſt deſire to remove them by an happy Peace) that a ſi e dy time and place be a greed upon for the meeting of ſuch Perſons as his Majeſty and both Houles ſhall appoint, to diſcuſſe theſe Propoſitions, and ſuch others here following, as his Majeſty doth propoſe to them.

1 THat His Majeſties owne revenue, Magazine Town, Forts, and Ships, which have beene taken or kept from him by force, be forthwith reſtored unto him.

2 That whatſoever hath been done or publiſhed contrary to the known Laws of the Land, or derogatory to his Majeſties legall and known power and rights, be renounced and recalled, that no ſeed may remaine for the like to ſpring out of for the future.

3 That whatſoever illegall power hath beene claymed and exerciſed by or over his ſubjects as i npriſoning their perſons without law, ſtopping their Habeas Corpuſſes, and impoſing upon their eſtates without Act of Parliament, &c. either by both or either Houſe or any Committee of both or either or by any Perſons appointed by any of them, be diſclaimed, and all ſuch perſons ſo committed forthwith diſcharged.

4 That his Majeſtie will readily conſent, having done ſo heretofore, to the execution of all lawes already made, and to any good acts for the ſuppreſsing of popery, and for the firm ſetling of the proteſtant religion now eſtabliſhed by law, So He deſires that a good Bil may be framed for the better preſerving of the Book of Common prayer from the ſcorne and violence of Browniſts, Anabaptiſts, and other Sectaries with ſuch clauſes for the eaſe of tender conſciences as his Maieſtie hath formerly offered.

5 That al ſuch perſons as upon the treaty ſhal be excepted out of the general pardon, ſhal be tryed *per pares* according to the uſual courſe and known Laws of the Land, and that it be left to that, either to acquit or condemne them.

6 And to the intent this treaty may not ſuffer interruption by any intervening accidents, that a ceſſation of armes and free trade for all his Majeſties ſubjects may be firſt agreed upon.

THis offer and deſire of his Majeſty he hopes will be ſo cheerfully entertained, that a ſpeedy and bleſſed peace may be accompliſhed. If it ſhal

shall be rejected, or by insisting upon unreasonable Circumstances, be made impossible; which he hopes God in his mercy to this Nation will not suffer the guilt of the Blood which will be shed, and the desolation which must follow, will lie upon the heads of the Refusers. However his Majesty is resolved, through what accidents soever he shall be compelled to recover his rights, and with what prosperous, successe soever it shall please God to blesse him, that by his earnest constant endeavours to propagate and promote the true Protestant Religion, and by his governing according to the knowne Laws of the Land uphoudling the just Privileges of Parliament according to his frequent Protestations maqe before Almighty God, which hee will alwayes inviolably observe, the World shall see that he hath undergone all these dificulties and hazards for the defence and maintenance of those; The zealous preservation of which his Majesty well knows is the onely foundation and means for the true happinesse of him and his people.

FINIS.

F1 50018